

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Good health is the most precious of a person's assets; and,

*Whereas*, Accurate, timely, and complete medical records and related health information are vital in planning and providing for quality health care for the people of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, Health information contained in medical records is kept in all health facilities that provide patient care and assists physicians and other health care providers in caring for their patients from birth to death; and,

*Whereas*, Public concern about the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health care is escalating; and,

*Whereas*, Equitable third-party reimbursement for health care is dependent on health information that is collected, analyzed, classified, verified, and disseminated; and,

*Whereas*, The South Dakota Health Information Management Association is the state's authoritative body in the management of health records and health information, thereby promoting continuous quality improvement of health care and excellence in the management of health records and health information; and,

*Whereas*, The South Dakota Health Information Management Association is composed of and promotes the advancement in competency of health information administrators, health information technologists, and certified coding specialists employed in hospitals, extended care facilities, health centers, and other health information and medical data related positions; and,

*Whereas*, The standard of excellence of the work performed by members of the South Dakota Health Information Management Association sets an example to which others should aspire; and,

*Whereas*, The Health Information Management professionals have continuing values and goals, individually and collectively, to improve the quality and efficiency of health care information, to balance patient confidentiality and the right to privacy with data usage of health information, and to promote the impact of the information in reflecting and influencing the quality of health care:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 2-8, 2003, as

### *HEALTH INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY WEEK*

in South Dakota, and I encourage the promotion of this year's theme, "Managing the Records of Life."

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State

